

NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Susan Serino

KRISTA JONES NAMED NYS SENATE 'WOMAN OF DISTINCTION'

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HYDE PARK, NY- Senator Sue Serino today announced that Krista Jones, Founder and Executive Director of the not-for-profit organization, Sparrow's Nest, has been named this year's New York State 'Woman of Distinction' for the 41stSenate District.

"Krista embodies a kind, generous spirit that radiates throughout our community," said Senator Sue Serino. "She has used her determination and generosity to drive the Sparrow's Nest organization and in the process has been able to help countless families across the Hudson Valley grappling with a cancer diagnosis. Each and every day, but especially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Krista has been an exceptional example of what it means to remain hopeful in a time of uncertainty. An inspiration to so many, I am honored to recognize her as this year's Woman of Distinction from the 41st Senate District."

Having lived in the Hudson Valley for over two decades, Krista first made her mark in radio as a reporter on WDST and WKNY in Kingston and later as the News Director/Morning Show Co-Host on WRNQ-FM/Clear Channel Radio of the Hudson Valley. According to her biography, it was after a close friend was diagnosed with colon cancer, that Krista sprung into action delivering home cooked meals to the family. From there, the idea for Sparrow's Nest took flight, and in 2013, the organization's first year, they were able to feed 16 families. Today, the local non-profit serves 350 people per week and to date has served over 2,000 individuals.

Under Krista's leadership, Sparrow's Nest has received countless awards including the 2019 Falcon Award for Business Excellence in Dutchess County. Sparrow's Nest was also the Ronald McDonald House of the Greater Hudson Valley's 2020 Red Shoe Award recipient for Non-Profit Partner of the Year.

The State Senate's prestigious 'Women of Distinction' event celebrates women from across New York who contribute significantly to the quality of life of those within and beyond their communities. Typically, honorees from each Senate District come together at a special annual event in the State Capitol where they have the opportunity to network with one another as they are recognized for their service and achievements. With visitors still not permitted at the Capitol, this year's celebration has gone virtual. To learn more about Krista and her work with Sparrow's Nest, click here. To view a special tribute video created for the occasion, click here.

To learn more about Sparrow's Nest and their impressive mission, please <u>click here</u>.